

Del Norte County
Sheriff's Office
650 Fifth Street
Crescent City, California

Notice of Proposed No Further Action related to petroleum discharges.
Comment Period ends **April 10, 2004**.

Site History

June 1993: A 2,200-gallon gasoline underground storage tank was removed and approximately 40 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated from the former tank cavity. An attempt to excavate contaminated material from the southwest side of the excavation was halted for fear of severe structural damage to the wall of the jail.

November 1993: Additional over-excavation removed approximately 200 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Soil and groundwater samples were collected. A backhoe pit was excavated on the south side of the Sheriff's Office for obtaining a downgradient groundwater sample. The groundwater sample taken from the downgradient pit had non-detectable levels of all constituents, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg), benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylenes (BTEX) and lead.

Stockpiled Soil: Approximately 360 cubic yards of gasoline contaminated soil, resulting from tank removal at the Sheriff's Office (Jail), was successfully aerated in August-September 1994. This soil had been stockpiled on property owned by the County near the airport on Washington Boulevard. All results of TPHg and BTXE analysis were non-detect, with the exception of 1.0 ppm TPHg for segment 2. In December 1994, staff approved the soil for use as unrestricted fill.

December 1998: An 8,000-gallon diesel underground storage tank, located on the south side of the building near the sidewalk was removed in December 1998. Four soil samples were collected at 6 feet below ground surface (bgs), two each from the east and west ends of the tank. One water sample was collected from the excavation pit.

March 2002: To assess soil and groundwater conditions beneath the site, seven soil borings were installed and converted to temporary well points. One soil sample was collected from each boring, except from boring B-5. Subsurface soils in the vicinity of B-5 consisted of gravel fill, which collapsed into the borehole. Soil and groundwater samples were analyzed for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd), BTEX and fuel oxygenates. Extremely low concentrations of TPHd were detected in soil samples from the site. Concentrations of TPHd, ranging from less than 50 ug/L to 3,300 ug/L, were detected in the groundwater samples.

November-December 2002: Soil and groundwater samples were collected during the installation of five monitoring wells at the site. TPHd was detected in only two soil samples: MW-2@ 7.5 feet bgs (5.3 ug/g) and MW-3@6.5 feet bgs (51 ug/g). No TPHd was detected in any of the groundwater samples.

In four quarterly sampling rounds from December 2002 to September 2003, TPHd was not detected in any groundwater samples.

Sensitive Receptor Survey: A sensitive receptor survey was performed for a 1,000-foot radius from the former location of the USTs. No water supply wells, surface waters, or sensitive environmental habitats are located within the search radius. Several residences and businesses are located within a hundred feet radius of the site. All of the facilities are supplied by municipal water. The storm drain was mapped from the site to the ocean.

Conclusion: At least five years have past since the last primary source, the diesel UST, was removed from the site. Nine years ago, the contaminated soil was removed and aerated off-site. Lab results collected over the last hydrological year indicate the former USTs sites present no potential or actual threat to water quality.

Proposed Action: No further action is proposed for the site.

MTBE Status: No MTBE was detected in soil or groundwater samples.

Unless comments are received or new information is presented, Regional Water Board staff plan to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period. Please contact Ron Allen by telephone at (707) 576-2848 or email at aller@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov for all issues concerning the Del Norte County Sheriff's Office site.